

Volume 2009: June

June 9, 2009



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Reflector

A Note From Your Pastor

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." -Philippians 1:3-6-

Let me begin by saying to you that I thank God through Jesus Christ for our ministry together and for each of you. As a community of faith in CUMC in Santa Maria, it has been my blessing to experience God's unending guidance and grace upon our ministry and each of you. I give thanks to God for challenges, enthusiasm, excitement and thankfulness for ministry and for fellowship with each of you.

During my service here, I have learned more clearly about our ministry for the sake of expanding the kingdom of God. I would like to express deep appreciation to each of our church members and leaders, for your leadership, and for all of your servanthood, stewardship, and faithfulness to Christ. We've been faced with many challenges in working to become a growing church, and the gifts of each of you have been so precious in this work. I believe that this good work will continue to nourish an expanding ministry. As this people of God arrives at the 80th Anniversary Sunday this coming fall, it will be a privilege to celebrate what God has been done in and through this ministry. I believe that this ministry will continue to be fruitful and to expand for the sake of the gospel.

In my mind, there are so many wonderful happy times, and cherished memories, that I can't list them all. But please remember that we are always connected together through the spirit of God--through worship, fellowship, study, and serving others, even though we are physically apart. Because we are joined with each other through the spirit of God, I cannot remain in sorrow at leaving, but will always rejoice and celebrate what will be coming next under God's grace. During our ministry, we have not yet seen the full growth of the ministry here, but someday our faith seed will blossom fully. We know that God is making something beautiful through our lives and ministry together.

I will miss you all very much. But remember and be encouraged, my beloved friends, by the powerful words spoken by St. Paul to the church at Philippi, "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me." (Philippians 3:12-13.)

Remember that God has called each of you, beyond age or human weaknesses, and consequently you are privileged to serve in the name of Jesus Christ, and to know God's faithfulness to you day by day. My heart will be full of thankfulness for your friendship and partnership in Christ to the end of my life. May God richly bless you and keep you here in Christ United Methodist Church always.

With much love and sincere prayer in Christ,


Seung-Eun Grace Lee



June 28, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Farewell Sunday for Rev. Seung-Eun Grace Lee

All are welcome to join with us!

Special Programs

All are invited to fellowship time after worship.

Suzie's Info Column



Firstly, our deepest sympathy to Ken & Veronica Kusudo of Riverside, CA on the passing of Ken's beloved father Tadao Ted of Lake Oswego, OR. Ted & his late wife, Kiyoko were married at our church during the spring of 1941. They had many friends in the local area. Please remember Ken & Veronica and his two sisters in your thoughts.

We are delighted to have among our congregation, Hitoshi & Kathy Yamada. Hitoshi is a trilinguist. He lived in Brazil for 32 years as a missionary and speaks Portuguese, Japanese and English fluently. Perhaps on some Sunday he can relate some of his experiences at our worship service. Kathy who was born and raised in Jackson, FL lived in Brazil for four years. They recently purchased a home in Arroyo Grande following a move from Clovis.

Yoshi Tanouye invited Mark Moon and his Nichigo group to his Yogurt Shop in Pismo, about a month or more ago. Everyone had a "yummy" time enjoying Yoshi's yogurt and other "goodies" he has to offer. Yoshi should do well during the summer months with the many visitors who enjoy Pismo during that time.

Young Moon's daughter, Joyce Lee, who is a Cal-Poly graduate, recently departed for Hana Seoul, Korea to teach English for one year. Congratulations and best wishes to Joyce on her assignment.

Those celebrating birthdays during May are Judy Deguchi, Merv Thomas, John Nakata (Merv & John were born on the same date but not year- so, neither are confessing what year), Peggy Araki, Emi Inouye, Tomie Katsuda and John McCulloch. Hope each and everyone had a very "special day" whenever their birthdays were.

And, celebrating a wedding anniversary during May are Don & Nobuko Park. May they have many more years of bliss together.

John Fox is now back from San Miguel, Mexico where he took a truck full of clothes, food and toys. He stated

that thankfully he had no problems enroute or returning. John spent about a month there distributing the goodies and seeing old friends. Good to have him back.

Mark Moon and the Nichigo group went shopping to Korea and Japan towns in Los Angeles on Tuesday, May 5th. They always have a great lunch at one of their favorite dining places in Koreatown.

At our Mother's Day service on May 10th, the men of the church sang "God is so Good to Mom" to the mothers present, and Rev. Mark Moon soloed by singing "Faith of Fathers (Mothers)" Thanks to Mark and all the men - it made the day for mothers present.

And, on Mother's Day, Alyce Schwab, who is a wonderful artist, displayed some of her paintings at the Santa Maria Inn along with others of the Santa Maria Arts Council.

Visiting at our May 24th service were Margaret Lau's mother, Mary Hori and brother, Bryan of Placentia. Mrs. Hori is a creative lady and has made many useful articles for sale at our annual bazaar. She and her late husband were generous supporters of our famous chicken BBQ for many years. Also, Ryan Lau, son of Margaret & Bo. Ryan will be graduating from San Diego U. on June 7th. Currently, Ryan is counseling young people when not studying and is enjoying it immensely. He is not certain what road he will be taking but perhaps counseling is on his agenda. Whatever Ryan will be doing we are certain he will succeed as he graduated Righetti High School with a 4 plus grade point average.

Thanks to Rev. Paul Motzer, Rev. Mark Moon and Rev. Alpha Takagi for their sermons during the absence of Rev. Grace.

Pastor Lee is trying to sell her home at a considerable loss. While this is very unfortunate for her, it is a great bargain for any of you (or people you know) who would be interested in buying it, either as a home or a investment. If interested, please contact Pastor Lee ASAP.

People in Our Prayer List

- ✚ Rev. Claudia Genung-Yamamoto and her family for their missionary work in Japan.
- ✚ Rev. Tim Boyle and his family for their missionary work in Japan.
- ✚ Jose Auyeung ✚ Lola Watts ✚ Sam Fast ✚ Mary Stringfellow
- ✚ Don Bloom ✚ Yolanda Colon ✚ Carl Turner ✚ Joe Rodriguez
- ✚ Mindy Garcia ✚ Barbara Puckett ✚ Don Nichols ✚ Karen Johnson
- ✚ Manny Ramirez ✚ Joyce Ujano ✚ Ed Clayton ✚ Irene Gardner
- ✚ Mary Hyosaka



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS (April 2009)

Special Donations

In memory of Kazue (Butch)Inouye
& Bruce Inouye
Toshio & Tayeko Kamo
In memory of Isamu Minami
Chiye Hayashi
JohnNakata
Yoshiko Rogers
Tak & Hina Shigenaka
Suzie Toyohara
In memory of George Fujinami
Bowman & Margaret Lau
Kane Araki's birthday
Corinne & Michael Araki-
Kawaguchi

Reflector

Kazuo & Mitsuko Ikeda
Mariko & Charles Nakano
Art & Mitsuye Suzuki
Tei Utsunomiya

Easter

Corinne & Michael Araki-
Kawaguchi
Joan Ban
Harald & Koko Brown
Arlene Croome
Judy Deguchi
Ben & Ty Dohi
John & Tina Fox
Ben & Haru Fuchiwaki
Hilo & Iso Fuchiwaki
Ken & Dora Fujinami
Masayo & Sumie Fujinami

Easter

Lily Furukawa
Sally Furukawa
Mie Hall
Chiye & Guy Hayashi
Shigeo & Nobuko Henmi
George Higa & Cheryl Struve
Evelyn Hirakami
Kiyoko Hiramatsu
Chikako Hori
Al and Sue Hyosaka
Kazuo & Mitsuko Ikeda
Marion Ikeda
Masao Inada
Toshiko Iriyama
James & Mary Jarvis
Harry & Grace Kadota
E. Joy Kagawa
Jane & Karen Kagawa
Toshio & Tayeko Kamo
Helen Kawaguchi
Mitsuko & Jerry Kleinfeldt
Ken & Mari Kobara
Fred & Sachiko Kumagai
Bowman & Margaret Lau
Rev. Grace Lee
Jean Lookabaugh
Shirley Luce (and Molly's baptism)
Tetsuhiko & Helen Makimoto
John & Tomi McCulloch
Toru & Jeanne Miyoshi
Rev. & Mrs. Mark Moon
Rev. & Mrs. Paul Motzer
Suyeichi Nakamura

Easter

Mariko & Charles Nakano
John Nakata
Randy & Jeni Newell
Carole Nishimori
George & Claire Nishimori
Donald & Nobuko Park
Mitsuko Redding
Yoshiko Rogers
Danny & Alyce Schwab
John & Margaret Sekishiro
Bob Shigenaka
Brian & Denise Shigenaka
Tak & Hina Shigenaka
Vicki Shimizu
Henry Shimoni
George Shinomiya
Rev. Alpha & Mary Takagi
Pearl Tatsuno
Mervin & Sachie Thomas
Hideko & Jesse Thompson
Justin & Marie Thompson
Hatsumi Thorvilson
Dixie Tomooka
Toshiko Tomooka
Suzie Toyohara
Darrell Truitt
Bette Uchida
Fumiko Utsunomiya
Kazuo Utsunomiya
Tei Utsunomiya
Fusa Yamaguchi
Shig & Setsu Yamaguchi
Fumi Yamanaka
Ruth Yoshioka



80th Anniversary Celebration Update

As you recall from our last Reflector, plans are well under way for our church's 80th Anniversary celebration to be held on **Sunday, October 18, 2009**. One of the challenges in planning this event is in knowing how many people to plan for. So we have attached a "Save the Date" card to this month's Reflector. Please take a moment to fill out your card and, in the red box, enter the number of people from your family who hope to be able to attend on that special day. And if you can think of someone who might like to join us that day, please enter that information in the lower left-hand corner. We will make sure that they receive an invitation.

We are planning to arrange for a group of rooms at a local hotel at a discounted rate. If you have a need for a hotel room, check the box in the lower right-hand corner, and we'll let you know how to make reservations when we get a little closer to the date.

Once we have a better idea of how many people want to attend, we will make tickets available at \$5 each to help with the costs of the meal and other expenses. So, don't forget to drop your card in the mail. This will be a truly uplifting and memorable celebration – plan to be a part of it! Watch your next Reflector for more information.

If you have any questions, please call Kay Moreland at 937-1740 or Margaret Lau at 937-7530.

REFLECTOR

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CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"A Church for All People"

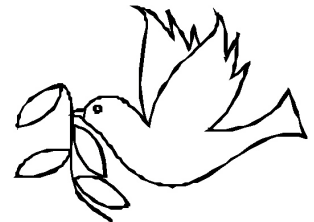
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Japanese Language: Rev. Mark Moon

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Our Mission is to be --
"A Church for All People"



Our Vision is --
We seek to grow in the love of God through meaningful
worship and serving, and to grow in the love of all our
neighbors by making everyone truly welcome, and by
helping our neighbors near and far.

Worship & Regular Programs:

- Sunday Worship Service, 10:30 am
- Sunday School, 9:30 am (Adults)
10:30 am (Children)
- Bible Study & Sharing Group, Wednesday 7:00 pm
- Japanese Worship Service, 1st Saturday 11:00 am
- Prayer Meeting, Friday 6:30 pm

Visit us on the internet at <http://www.smchristumc.org>